

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendments and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 10-15, 19, and 20 are pending; Claims 1-9 and 16-18 are canceled; and no claims are newly added herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

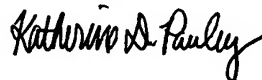
In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kuriyama et al. (JP 060241014); Claims 2, 3, 16, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Suga et al. (JP 07309022); Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kuriyama et al. in view of Sanders et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,552,064); Claims 8, 9, and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Suga et al. in view of Sanders et al.; and Claims 10-15, 19, and 20 were indicated as allowable.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication that Claims 10-15, 19, and 20 contain allowable subject matter. As these claims have been amended to be in independent form, and Claims 1-9 and 16-18 have been canceled, it is respectfully submitted that the outstanding rejections are overcome.

Consequently, in view of the foregoing discussion and present amendments, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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